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**Programme planning**

# Proposed strategic framework for the period 2010-2011

## Part two: biennial programme plan

## Programme 9
## United Nations support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

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## Overall orientation

9.1 The programme was established following the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s in 2002. As a result of that review, the General Assembly, by its resolution 57/7, brought to a close the New Agenda and endorsed the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)[1] as the framework for the international community's support for African development. In its resolution 57/7, the Assembly also outlined the substantive areas and modalities for providing such support, inter alia underscoring the need for a structure in the Secretariat in New York to review and report on the support provided by the United Nations system and the international community for the New Partnership and on the coordinated implementation of outcomes of summit meetings and conferences as they relate to Africa, as well as to coordinate global advocacy in support of the New Partnership. In addition, the Assembly welcomed the actions being taken at the regional level by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of the New Partnership, and, in that regard, urged the strengthening of the process as a means of enhancing the effective response of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership. Finally, it called upon the United Nations system to intensify its advocacy role and public information activities in support of Africa's development. Subsequently, in its resolution 57/300, the Assembly endorsed the creation of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and entrusted to that Office the role of coordinating reports and advocacy in support of NEPAD. The role of the Office in supporting NEPAD has been reaffirmed by the General Assembly in a series of subsequent resolutions.

9.2 At the 2005 World Summit (see General Assembly resolution 60/1), world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, the only continent not on track to meet any of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (resolution 55/2) by 2015. The New Partnership includes a commitment to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, which represents an important linkage with the Millennium Declaration. NEPAD thus substantially reflects the priorities in terms of meeting the special needs of Africa as set out in the Declaration, namely, supporting the political and institutional structures of emerging democracies in Africa; further building peacekeeping capacity in cooperation with regional organizations; taking special measures to address the challenges of poverty reduction and sustainable development by cancelling debt, increasing official development assistance, enhancing private capital flows and building capacities for trade; and helping Africa to build its capacity to tackle the spread of HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. Consequently, through its support for NEPAD, the programme will also contribute substantively to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

9.3 A major barrier to the development of Africa has been the persistence of conflicts in certain countries of the region. The need to develop a comprehensive means of promoting peace and security and development has long been recognized and was articulated in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318). Since the issuance of that report, in 1998, a number of

[1] NEPAD was formally adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held in Lusaka in July 2001.

United Nations initiatives in Africa have been in line with the recommendations of the report, although a great deal still needs to be done. In recognition of this, the General Assembly, by its resolution 60/223, called on the Secretary-General to continue to monitor progress in the implementation of the recommendations.

9.4 In accordance with the mandate provided in the resolutions of the General Assembly, the programme aims to: (a) mobilize support and galvanize the efforts of the international community for peace and development in Africa; (b) ensure that the development of Africa remains one of the main priorities of the international community; (c) promote a supportive international framework for African development efforts; (d) encourage a coordinated and effective response by the United Nations system at the policy and operational levels in support of African development; and (e) strengthen and enhance South-South cooperation in support of the advancement of Africa.

9.5 Regional and international efforts have focused on the implementation of NEPAD and on assisting Africa's efforts to develop a robust peace and security architecture. The programme will support those efforts through a mix of analytical work, advocacy and outreach and by enhancing coordination of the work of the United Nations system in support of Africa's development.

9.6 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa has been realigned with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. The realignment will help reinforce advocacy efforts and promote greater inter-agency coordination and donor contact to mobilize support for programmes dedicated to Africa's development and to the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will maintain its mandate and programme budget as well as provide overall coordination for and leadership of programme 9, which will be under the joint responsibility of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa, ECA and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat.

## Subprogramme 1
## Coordination of global advocacy of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

**Objective of the Organization**: To strengthen international cooperation in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|---|---|
| (a) Increased international community support for African development in general and NEPAD in particular | (a) (i) The number of recommendations in the reports of the Secretary-General incorporated into General Assembly resolutions on African development |
| | (ii) An increase in the number of United Nations system activities in support of African development |

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| | (iii) An increase in the number of forums addressing South-South cooperation in support of Africa |
| (b) Improved United Nations coordination in providing support to African development with the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals | (b) An increase in the number of joint initiatives undertaken by the United Nations system in support of African development |
| (c) Increased international awareness of African development issues | (c) An increase in the number of visits to the website of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa |

**Strategy**

9.7 The subprogramme will ensure that African development issues are effectively addressed in intergovernmental debates and adequately incorporated into the resolutions emanating from that process. It will seek to raise international awareness of African development issues through advocacy and catalytic activities, participation in key forums, encouragement of United Nations system coordination, promotion of South-South cooperation and engagement with civil society and the private sector.

9.8 In view of the interlinkages between peace and sustainable development in Africa, the subprogramme will continue to analyse and draw attention to the root causes of conflict in African countries, monitor early warning signals and make recommendations on the steps that need to be taken to tackle violent conflicts in African countries.

9.9 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will be proactive in working closely with Member States, the African Union, the NEPAD secretariat, and the entire United Nations system (including the Bretton Woods institutions) in the performance of its functions. It will encourage the building of an international infrastructure consortium, with the New Partnership for Africa's Development as the main framework, to facilitate public and private infrastructure investment in Africa and will encourage and support initiatives of the African Union and subregional organizations aimed at preventing, mediating and resolving conflicts with the assistance of the United Nations. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will also continue to conduct studies and organize expert group meetings on the role of the private sector in the implementation of NEPAD, establish and maintain contacts with civil society organizations and the private sector and encourage their participation in the implementation of NEPAD.

9.10 The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa will continue to monitor the follow-up to international commitments made to Africa in the context of the 2005 World Summit Outcome and international forums held since 2005. The Office will make available on its website summary updates of the findings of expert bodies monitoring the progress achieved in the implementation of the commitments made to Africa in that context. The Office will also monitor the support (financial and technical, etc.) given to Africa by new and emerging donors. The Office will also advocate, and further raise international awareness of the importance of, an effective partnership between African countries and new and emerging development partners.

Furthermore, the Office will promote South-South cooperation through, inter alia, the Tokyo International Conference on African Development process and provide support to various South-South forums. As a co-organizer of the Tokyo process and through its interactions with Member States from the South, the Office will continue to encourage the convening of forums that will result in practical measures to promote South-South cooperation, with a view to enabling African countries to benefit from the sharing of experiences and potentially from technical assistance and cooperation on the part of other developing and emerging countries. Following the commitment of the African countries to governance through the establishment of the African Peer Review Mechanism, the Office will promote institutional capacity-building and good governance in Africa with the aim of supporting the implementation of NEPAD projects and programmes.

## Subprogramme 2
## Regional coordination of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

**Objective of the Organization**: To strengthen the United Nations system-wide support for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development at the regional and subregional levels in a manner consistent with the declaration on "Enhancing United Nations-African Union Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-building Programme for the African Union".

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|---|---|
| (a) Enhanced coherence, coordination and cooperation among United Nations agencies in support of the implementation of NEPAD at the regional level | (a) Number of joint programmes implemented by the Regional Consultation Mechanism clusters in support of NEPAD programmes at the regional level |
| (b) Enhanced cooperation among United Nations agencies and the regional economic communities in support of the implementation of NEPAD programmes at the subregional level | (b) Number of coordination mechanisms established at the subregional level |

### Strategy

9.11 Substantive responsibility for this subprogramme is vested in ECA. In implementing the subprogramme, ECA will work closely with other United Nations bodies at the global, regional and subregional levels, particularly with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Department of Public Information, within the context of United Nations support for the regional consultation mechanism and its thematic clusters. Support by United Nations agencies has increased in recent years. However, that support needs to be better coordinated so as to enhance its impact.

9.12 The strategic focus of this subprogramme will therefore be on strengthening inter-agency collaboration in the implementation of technical cooperation activities in support of the priorities identified in the action plans developed by the various thematic clusters. It will also focus on improving collaboration and coordination with the African Union, the NEPAD secretariat, the regional economic communities, the African Development Bank and other regional organizations, with a view to

ensuring the provision of effective support in the implementation of NEPAD in the framework of the 10-year capacity-building programme of the African Union. The subprogramme will promote and support effective, coherent and coordinated actions by United Nations agencies in support of NEPAD. It will also provide substantive and effective servicing of the annual meetings of the regional consultation mechanism of United Nations agencies, including monitoring, assessing and reporting on the progress made in the implementation of United Nations system-wide support for the African Union and its NEPAD programme.

9.13 Support for the implementation of NEPAD will be consistent with the declaration on United Nations-African Union cooperation signed in November 2006 by the United Nations Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union, which established the framework for the 10-year capacity-building programme for the African Union. The framework establishes a basis for expanding and strengthening consultations and cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union to address the persistent needs of Africa in the area of the promotion of peace and security and of overall socio-economic development. The framework covers all aspects of the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union and urges United Nations agencies and organizations to provide assistance in building the capacity of the African Union. The declaration also calls for aligning the support of the organizations of the United Nations system for NEPAD with the framework.

## Subprogramme 3
## Public information and awareness activities in support of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

**Objective of the Organization**: To raise international awareness of the critical economic and social situation in Africa, as well as of the efforts made by Africa and the international community to promote the economic recovery and sustainable development of the region in pursuit of the goals of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

| Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat | Indicators of achievement |
|---|---|
| (a) Improved quality and timely issuance of *Africa Renewal* in English and French | (a) (i) The percentage of the target audience expressing satisfaction with the value of the materials published in the magazine<br>(ii) A reduction in the number of days beyond 3 months for each issuance of *Africa Renewal* in English and French |
| (b) Enhanced awareness of key thematic issues covered by the information materials produced by the subprogramme, both in print and on the website | (b) The percentage of the target audience indicating awareness of key thematic issues |
| (c) Enhanced awareness on the part of the target audience of the aims of NEPAD | (c) The percentage of the target audience indicating awareness of the aims of NEPAD |

**Strategy**

9.14 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme lies with the Department of Public Information. The overall strategy involves the development of global communications plans on priority issues affecting Africa, including generating support for the implementation of NEPAD among people in Africa and in the donor countries and for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and is aimed at ensuring that such plans are implemented in coordination with the rest of the Department, the United Nations Communications Group and the United Nations system as a whole, and in particular with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and ECA. Activities will include the quarterly publication of *Africa Renewal* magazine, together with a range of additional outputs including Web-only news and analysis, background notes, press releases and briefing papers for use by non-United Nations media, both African and international. Dissemination to a diverse public and to target groups such as parliamentarians, policymakers in both government and non-governmental organizations, trade unions, civil society and academic institutions, will be achieved through direct contact with individuals and groups as well as through systematic outreach to the media in Africa and to the international mass media so as to ensure that key players are informed of major national and international initiatives and events that affect sustainable development in Africa.

## Legislative mandates

*General Assembly resolutions*

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| 55/2 | United Nations Millennium Declaration |
| 55/210 | Implementation of the First United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), including the initiative to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication |
| 55/214 | Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries |
| 55/217 | Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa |
| 55/279 | Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010 |
| 56/95 | Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit |
| 57/2 | United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development |
| 57/7 | Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development |
| 57/144 | Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit |
| 57/300 | Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change |

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| 60/1 | 2005 World Summit Outcome |
| 61/229 | New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support |
| 61/230 | Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa |

*Security Council resolutions*

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| 1170 (1998) | Conflict prevention and the promotion of durable peace and security and sustainable development in Africa |
| 1197 (1998) | Support for regional and subregional initiatives on Africa and strengthening of coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the area of conflict prevention and the maintenance of peace |

*Economic and Social Council resolutions*

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| 1998/44 | Integrated and coordinated implementation and follow-up of major United Nations conferences and summits |
| | Ministerial declaration adopted by the Council at its high-level segment of 2001 |